

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 and 20-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1-18 and 20-23 stand rejected. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Abstract

As discussed in the Examiner's interview, the Examiner agreed that the Abstract is to be used in determining the nature of the disclosure, rather than the invention. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the Abstract so that the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the public generally can more quickly determine from a cursory inspection the nature and gist of the technical disclosure. Support for the amendment is found, for example, in page 5, line 19 through page 6, line 22. Applicants request removal of the objection.

Objection to the Specification

The specification was objected to as containing over 60 lines of code. Accordingly Applicants have deleted the code from the specification and submitted the code on compact disks in accordance with 37 CFR 1.96 with files in ".txt" format, which Applicants believe to be in ASCII format. Additionally two labeled disks have been submitted using plastic covers. Applicants believe the objection to the amended specification should be removed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-18 and 20-23 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Harold, Rusty Elliotte, "XML Bible", IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., 1999 ("Harold"). The Office Action rejected claim 1, alleging Harold teaches the "use of XML as a markup language in processing electronic documents," the "association of XML and incorporating style properties with XML," and using "XML as a storage format for word processors."

With respect to claim 1, the claim has been amended to include internally representing an application document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the application and comprising unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application (which helps make the ML "native" to the application). Thus new features and properties can be added to the application used to author the document by enhancing the internal representation. By storing the document with the properties described in an ML, other applications (of other native MLs) can interpret the document to the extent they can understand the ML generated by the authoring application.

Accordingly, the recited invention of claim 1 (for example) can allow applications having native MLs to correctly render text, for example, using styles that are specified by an application having a different native ML (see page 6, line 1 of the specification). If the application (having a different native ML) cannot render the list using the stored properties, the contents of the list can still be rendered in a rudimentary fashion, albeit without the benefit of all of the stored

properties, and without parsing errors encountered from using properties not defined in the ML. As, discussed above, the cited art does not teach or fairly suggest mapping unique application properties of styles to a markup language, but rather merely describes how to store documents using XML. Thus, the cited art does not show a computer-implemented method for representing list information in a markup language document.

As discussed above, Harold fails to teach internally representing an application document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the application and comprising unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application. Instead Harold merely teaches XML style sheets (page 436) that are stored external to documents. Additionally, the style sheets are not part of the native ML for the application.

As such, Harold also fails to teach determining the unique styles comprised by the internal representation of the application having a native format, mapping the determined properties, and storing the mapped properties.

Accordingly, independent claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 2 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches “table styles applied to paragraphs, characters, tables and a list.” Claim 2 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

Claim 3 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches “overriding standard default style sheet styles, which creates custom styles for the style sheet.” Claim 3 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 2.

Claim 4 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches “default styles.” Claim 4 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

Claim 5 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches “latent styles.” Claim 5 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 4.

Claim 6 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches, “the style attribute attached to an element to change a style in one section of the document.” Claim 6 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

Claim 7 was rejected because Harold allegedly teaches, “that XML may be understood by different applications and that the XML language is ‘self-describing.’” Claim 7 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

Claim 8 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 1.

Claim 9 has been amended to include internally representing a word-processing document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the application and comprising unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application (which helps make the ML “native” to the application). Thus, new features and properties can be added to the application used to author the document by enhancing the internal representation. By storing the document with the

properties described in an ML, other applications (of other native MLs) can interpret the document to the extent they can understand the ML generated by the authoring application.

Accordingly, the recited invention of claim 9 (for example) can allow applications having native MLs to correctly render text, for example, using styles that are specified by an application having a different native ML (see page 6, line 1 of the specification). If the application (having a different native ML) cannot render the text using the stored properties, the text can still be rendered in a rudimentary fashion, albeit without the benefit of all of the stored properties, and without parsing errors encountered from using properties not defined in the ML. As discussed above, the cited art does not teach or suggest mapping unique application properties of styles to a markup language, but rather merely describes XML style sheets that are external to the documents. Thus, the cited art does not teach or suggest the recited limitations.

As discussed above, Harold fails to teach internally representing an application document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the application and comprising unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application. Instead Harold merely teaches XML style sheets (page 436) that are stored external to documents. Additionally, the style sheets are not part of the native ML for the application.

As such, Harold also fails to teach determining the unique styles comprised by the internal representation of the application having a native format, mapping the determined properties, and storing the mapped properties.

Accordingly, independent claim 9 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 10-15 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 9 in combination with claims 7, 8, 6, 3, 4, and 5, respectively.

Claim 16 has been amended to include an application configured to internally represent an application document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the application and comprising unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application (which helps make the ML “native” to the application). Thus, new features and properties can be added to the application used to author the document by enhancing the internal representation. By storing the document with the properties described in an ML, other applications (of other native MLs) can interpret the document to the extent they can understand the ML generated by the authoring application.

Accordingly, the recited invention of claim 9 (for example) can allow applications having native MLs to correctly render text, for example, using styles that are specified by an application having a different native ML (see page 6, line 1 of the specification). If the application (having a different native ML) cannot render the text using the stored properties, the text can still be rendered in a rudimentary fashion, albeit without the benefit of all of the stored properties, and without parsing errors encountered from using properties not defined in the ML. Thus the cited art does not teach or suggest the recited claim.

As discussed above, Harold fails to teach internally representing an application document in an application, wherein the internal representation is in a format that is native to the

application and the internal representation comprises unique properties for describing styles within the document, wherein the unique properties are defined by the application. Instead Harold merely teaches XML style sheets (page 436) that are stored external to documents. Additionally, the style sheets are not part of the native ML for the application.

As such, Harold also fails to teach determining the unique styles comprised by the internal representation of the application having a native format, mapping the determined properties, and storing the mapped properties.

Accordingly, independent claim 16 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 17-18 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 16.

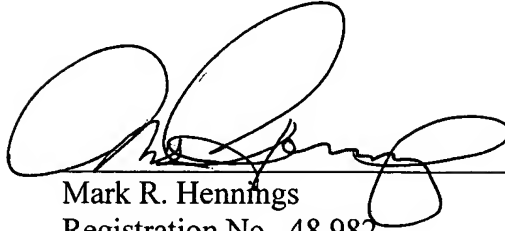
Claim 19 has been cancelled.

Claims 20-23 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given above for claim 16 in combination with claims 10, 11, 2, and 3 respectively.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark R. Hennings', is written over a horizontal line.

Mark R. Hennings

Registration No. 48,982

Direct Dial: 206.342.6289

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P. O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

206.342.6200

27488

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE